STATE OF NEW JERSEY Cutive Director DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY **DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS BOARD OF REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS**

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATION OF

> THOMAS H. BARRETT, RA00308100

TO PRACTICE AS A REAL ESTATE APPRAISER IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Real Estate Appraisers ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent is a real estate appraiser in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. The Board conducted a continuing education audit in 2006, asking a random sampling of its licensees for documentation of continuing education completed APR #583529 during the 2004-2005 licensing period.

1

- 3. Respondent submitted documentation in response to this audit, which was received on April 10, 2006.
- 4. Respondent did not forward proof of successful completion of the 7-hour USPAP course.
- Respondent submitted documentation of having completed a total of
 credit hours of continuing education prior to December 31, 2005.
- 6. Respondent certified upon respondent's renewal application for the 2006-2007 licensure renewal period that respondent had completed the continuing education requirement during the previous biennial licensure renewal period.
- 7. Respondent certified upon respondent's renewal application for the 2006-2007 licensure renewal period that respondent had completed a USPAP course.
- 8. Respondent is required pursuant to <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 13:40A-5.3, -5.4 to have completed the equivalent of fourteen (14) classroom hours of instruction for each year during the period preceding renewal. The continuing education completed must include either a seven (7) or fifteen (15) hour USPAP course.¹

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent's failure to successfully complete continuing education requirements for licensure during the 2004-2005 biennial renewal period constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:40A-5.3, -5.4, subjecting respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21 (e) and (h).

¹ 2004 was the last year that the 15-hour USPAP course could be used to satisfy the USPAP continuing education requirement.

2. Respondent's certification upon renewal for the January 1, 2006-December 31, 2007 renewal cycle that respondent had satisfied the continuing education requirement constitutes a violation of <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 45:1-21(b).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of
Discipline was entered on February 26, 2007, provisionally suspending respondent
until he had furnished proof of successful completion of the continuing education for the
2004-2005 licensure cycle, imposing a public reprimand upon respondent, and
imposing a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,750. A copy of the Order was forwarded to
respondent by certified and regular mail at his address of record. The Provisional
Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day
following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated
Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification
or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and
conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or
other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons
therefor.

Respondent replied to the Order, requesting consideration. Respondent indicated that the continuing education that he believed had been taken for the 2004-2005 licensing cycle had actually been taken for the prior biennial cycle. He further explained that he had been under stress during the 2004-2005 period because of familial problems. The Board determined that further proceedings were not necessary and that no material discrepancies had been raised. Upon Board notification, respondent submitted proof of successful, though belated, completion of the continuing

education credits which he had not completed at the time of the audit. Consequently, by the terms of the Provisional Order, suspension of respondent's license is not warranted. The Board was not persuaded that the submitted materials merited further consideration, as respondent did not dispute the findings of fact or conclusions of law. Inasmuch as respondent did not contest the findings of fact or conclusions of law in the Provisional Order, the Board determined that further proceedings were not necessary and that the Provisional Order should be made final.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this Zo day of Vunc , 2007, ORDERED that:

- 1. A public reprimand is hereby imposed upon respondent for his violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b), (e) and (f).
- 2. A civil penalty in the amount of \$1,750 is hereby imposed upon respondent. Payment shall be in the form of a certified check, money order or attorney trust account check made payable to the State of New Jersey, and shall be forwarded within twenty one (21) days of the entry of this Order to the attention of Dr. James S. Hsu, Executive Director, Real Estate Appraiser Board, P.O. Box 45032, 124 Halsey Street, Third Floor, Newark, NJ 07101.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

John A. McCann

President